

# **MAINE FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES COMMISSION**

## **MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 4, 2001**

The meeting of the Commission was called to order by Vice-Chairman Darrel Fournier at 1:00 P.M. at the Maine Emergency Medical Services conference room in Augusta with the following members present: Michael Albert, Jack Berry, Jeff Cammack, John Cannon, John Dean, Darrel Fournier, Al Godfrey, Ted Johnston, Randy Keep, Jeff Maker, Harty Norris, Jethro Pease, Dave Wacker and Steve Willis. Members excused were: Jay Bradshaw, Rep. Clifton Foster, Sen. Bill O’Gara, Rep. Michael Quint and Sen. Christine Savage. Member Absent was Tom Parent. Guest present was Earle Welch, Jr., Wayne Asst. Fire Chief.

The minutes of the May 14, 2001 meeting were approved as presented.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

It was reported that the new staff person has not been brought on board yet, however, will be here at the next meeting.

There was a discussion on the necessity of encumbering the \$ 33,000.00 more or less funding for the actuarial study before it lapses at the end of the month. Ted Johnston volunteered to contact the Speaker of the House and President of the Senate to carry out the necessary details to roll over the funds into the next fiscal year.

John Dean reported that 237 responses to the Commission questionnaire have been received from the approximately 440 that were mailed out and they are still coming in. It was concluded that this response has far exceeded our wildest dreams and should provide a tremendous sample for the actuary to work with.

Darrel Fournier spoke on the Maine Fire Service Leadership Goal Setting Meeting being held this afternoon at 4:00 P.M. at the Maine Technical College Headquarters conference room in Augusta involving members of the Maine Fire Chief’s Association, Maine State Federation of Firefighters, Professional Firefighters of Maine and Maine Fire Training & Education. This meeting is to brainstorm where we are and where we are going in the fire service in Maine regarding legislation etc. so that all groups are marching in concert with each other when issues are being presented.

It was agreed that a conference call be conducted by the sub-committee preparing the RFP on the actuarial study on June 11 at 1:00 P.M. Susan Antonucci of MFT&E will initiate the conference call.

John Dean and Steve Willis spoke on a meeting with Verizon Communications officials regarding the costs involved in the Kennebunk major loss investigation and what Verizon might do to assist financially. Verizon would like to help, however, is very concerned that they don’t establish a precedent for industry.

There was a discussion regarding the returns from the Commission questionnaire. It was questioned about who and how the results will be collated. It was concluded that this be discussed with the new staff person when she is on board. There were several thoughts presented on where the repository of these results will be located, and future use and access.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Ted Johnston spoke on the movement that has been initiated by Senator Karl Turner of Cumberland to allow red lights on municipal vehicles other than Fire or EMS

vehicles. It has been apparently brought up in both the Republican and Democratic caucuses and has failed.

Steve Willis spoke briefly on the new Firefighter I curriculum changes.

Darrel Fournier advised that Channel 6 TV is doing another piece on the fire service and noted that they have been very supportive on fire service issues. It was concluded that we should keep them informed of future Commission activities as they could be of great assistance getting the word out to the public through Channel 6 in Portland and their affiliate Channel 2 in Bangor.

Steve Willis spoke briefly on the new draft 16 hour "Emerge" curriculum being prepared for new Fire & EMS members. There will be a meeting on June 19 at the Bureau of Labor Standards office in Hallowell to go over the curriculum to insure that everything is covered. Notice of the meeting will be sent out by MFT&E.

It was determined that the next meeting of the Commission will be held on Monday, June 25, 2001 at 1:00 P.M. in the same facility. The meeting to follow will be Monday, July 16, 2001, followed by a meeting on Monday, August 13, 2001.

With no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 1:51 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Albert L. Godfrey, Sr., P.E., P.L.S., C.S.E.  
Secretary